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April 24, 1984

press release

FOR RELEASE A.M. MONDAY, APRIL 30, 1984

Net new orders for U.S. machine tools rose by 3% in March, totalling $208,450,000. Shipments for the month increased 29%, to a value of $189,250,000, according to data released today by the National Machine Tool Builders' Association.

Orders for the first quarter, at $600,450,000, were 91% above last year's first quarter totals, while shipments, at $449,500,000, were off 8% compared to the first three months of 1983. "While the first quarter order total is a positive sign, the machine tool industry is still in dire straits," said Association President James A. Gray. "Shipments, which generate essential cash flow, are actually below last year's devastated levels." Gray noted that the March shipment increase represented a typical end of quarter surge.

Gray pointed out that imported machine tools continue to account for more than one-third of the American market, threatening the nation's deterrence posture.

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"Imports subsidized by foreign governments continue to ravage our defense-essential industry," Gray warned. The Association filed a petition under Section 232 of the trade laws in March of 1983. Secretary of Commerce Baldrige submitted his recommendation for action on the petition, now a classified document, to the White House on February 28th, but the President has not yet acted.

The petition, filed on the industry's behalf, demonstrates that current import levels imperil national security and urges that President Reagan limit machine tool imports to 17.5% of domestic consumption for a period of five years.

In March, orders for metal-cutting machine tools increased 10% to $146,500,000. Shipments in the category rose 19% to $122,500,000. For the first quarter, metal-cutting orders were up 84%, rising to $412,750,000, while shipments, at $298,100,000, were off 20% compared to the first quarter of last year.

Metal-forming machine tool orders dropped 11% in March, standing at $61,950,000. A 51% shipments increase in the category pushed the total to $66,750,000 for the month. Compared to first quarter totals a year ago, metal-forming orders at $187,700,000, were up 107%. Shipments increased 30% to a total of $151,400,000.

Industry order backlog increased by $20 million in March, to a value of $1.196 billion.

# # # #

COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

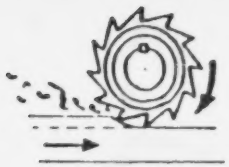
	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
Mar. 1984	131,900	14,600	146,500	56,750	5,200	61,950	188,650	19,800	208,450
Feb. 1984	121,700	11,350	133,050	66,000	3,850	69,850	187,700	15,200	202,900
% Change Mar.1984:Feb.1984	+8.4	+28.6	+10.1	-14.0	+35.1	-11.3	+0.5	+30.3	+2.7
Mar. 1983	84,950	4,700	89,650	32,050	3,800	35,850	117,000	8,500	125,500
% Change Mar. 1984:Mar. 1983	+55.3	+210.6	+63.4	+77.1	+36.8	+72.8	+61.2	+132.9	+66.1
Year To Date 1984	376,100	36,650	412,750	175,800	11,900	187,700	551,900	48,550	600,450
Year To Date 1983	205,850	18,250	224,100	79,700	11,050	90,750	285,550	29,300	314,850
% Change 1984 : 1983	+82.7	+100.8	+84.2	+120.6	+7.7	+106.8	+93.3	+65.7	+90.7

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
Mar. 1984	112,350	10,150	122,500	60,000	6,750	66,750	172,350	16,900	189,250
Feb. 1984	95,300	7,750	103,050	40,400	3,850	44,250	135,700	11,600	147,300
% Change Mar.1984:Feb.1984	+17.9	+31.0	+18.9	+48.5	+75.3	+50.8	+27.0	+45.7	+28.5
Mar. 1983	119,700	14,700	134,400	36,400	5,450	41,850	156,100	20,150	176,250
% Change Mar. 1984:Mar. 1983	-6.1	-31.0	-8.9	+64.8	+23.9	+59.5	+10.4	-16.1	+7.4
Year To Date 1984	273,000	25,100	298,100	135,950	15,450	151,400	408,950	40,550	449,500
Year To Date 1983	329,800	40,800	370,600	101,000	15,850	116,850	430,800	56,650	487,450
% Change 1984 : 1983	-17.2	-38.5	-19.6	+34.6	-2.5	+29.6	-5.1	-28.4	-7.8

Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association

Form No. PRCC-2



CUTTING

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

FORMING

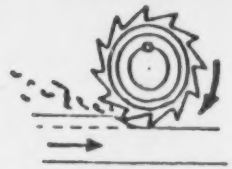
DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 175,550,000	$ 13,550,000	$ 189,100,000	1,120.85	$ 100,900,000	$ 12,050,000	$ 112,950,000
Feb.	$ 187,700,000	$ 15,200,000	$ 202,900,000	1,176.45	$ 135,700,000	$ 11,600,000	$ 147,300,000
Mar. (p)	$ 188,650,000	$ 19,800,000	$ 208,450,000	1,195.65	$ 172,350,000	$ 16,900,000	$ 189,250,000
3 Mos.	$ 551,900,000	$ 48,550,000	$ 600,450,000		$ 408,950,000	$ 40,550,000	$ 449,500,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 183,900,000	$ 14,300,000	$ 198,200,000	$ 8,350,000	$ 750,000	$ 9,100,000
Feb.	$ 197,050,000	$ 16,900,000	$ 213,950,000	$ 9,350,000	$ 1,700,000	$ 11,050,000
Mar. (p)	$ 196,700,000	$ 21,200,000	$ 217,900,000	$ 8,050,000	$ 1,400,000	$ 9,450,000
3 Mos.	$ 577,650,000	$ 52,400,000	$ 630,050,000	$ 25,750,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 29,600,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1c

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.



INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 122,500,000	$ 10,700,000	$ 133,200,000	883.80	$ 65,350,000	$ 7,200,000	$ 72,550,000
Feb.	$ 121,700,000	$ 11,350,000	$ 133,050,000	913.80	$ 95,300,000	$ 7,750,000	$ 103,050,000
Mar. (p)	$ 131,900,000	$ 14,600,000	$ 146,500,000	937.80	$ 112,350,000	$ 10,150,000	$ 122,500,000
3 Mos.	$ 376,100,000	$ 36,650,000	$ 412,750,000		$ 273,000,000	$ 25,100,000	$ 298,100,000

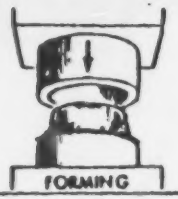
DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 127,550,000	$ 10,750,000	$ 138,300,000	$ 5,050,000	$ 50,000	$ 5,100,000
Feb.	$ 130,600,000	$ 12,400,000	$ 143,000,000	$ 8,900,000	$ 1,050,000	$ 9,950,000
Mar. (p)	$ 137,150,000	$ 15,950,000	$ 153,100,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 1,350,000	$ 6,600,000
3 Mos.	$ 395,300,000	$ 39,100,000	$ 434,400,000	$ 19,200,000	$ 2,450,000	$ 21,650,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1c

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog



DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 53,050,000	$ 2,850,000	$ 55,900,000	237.05	$ 35,550,000	$ 4,850,000	$ 40,400,000
Feb.	$ 66,000,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 69,850,000	262.65	$ 40,400,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 44,250,000
Mar. (p)	$ 56,750,000	$ 5,200,000	$ 61,950,000	257.85	$ 60,000,000	$ 6,750,000	$ 66,750,000
3 Mos.	$ 175,800,000	$ 11,900,000	$ 187,700,000		$ 135,950,000	$ 15,450,000	$ 151,400,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 56,350,000	$ 3,550,000	$ 59,900,000	$ 3,300,000	$ 700,000	$ 4,000,000
Feb.	$ 66,450,000	$ 4,500,000	$ 70,950,000	$ 450,000	$ 650,000	$ 1,100,000
Mar. (p)	$ 59,550,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 64,800,000	$ 2,800,000	$ 50,000	$ 2,850,000
3 Mos.	$ 182,350,000	$ 13,300,000	$ 195,650,000	$ 6,550,000	$ 1,400,000	$ 7,950,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1d

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

QUARTERLY AND YEARLY SHIPMENTS AND NET NEW ORDERS OF MACHINE TOOLS
(DOLLAR FIGURES IN THOUSANDS)
1979 TO DATE

	CUTTING AND FORMING			CUTTING			FORMING		
	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET	SHIPMENTS		NET
DATE	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS	Total	Foreign	NEW ORDERS
1979-1	$ 858,050	$ 88,300	$1,471,400	$ 633,450	$ 69,000	$1,158 250	$ 224,600	$ 19,300	$ 313,150
2	978,200	109,150	1,356,450	735,750	87,650	1,083,550	242,450	21,500	272,900
3	899,850	97,050	1,353,200	689,850	78,500	1,120,500	210,000	18,550	232,700
4	1,140,450	116,750	1,440,400	871,000	89,400	1,132,800	269,450	27,350	307,600
Total	$3,876,550	$411,250	$5,621,450	$2,930,050	$324,550	$4,495,100	$ 946,500	$ 86,700	$1,126,350
1980-1	$1,146,150	$115,700	$1,517,450	$ 881,400	$ 86,750	$1,207,800	$ 264,750	$ 28,950	$ 309,650
2	1,193,300	155,550	1,335,350	925,350	122,850	1,142,100	267,950	32,700	193,250
3	1,049,050	133,850	917,500	830,450	102,650	728,300	218,600	31,200	189,200
4	1,303,250	202,400	984,000	1,043,600	162,550	806,550	259,650	39,850	177,450
Total	$4,691,750	$607,500	$4,754,300	$3,680,800	$474,800	$3,884,750	$1,010,950	$ 132,700	$ 869,550
1981-1	$1,288,200	$210,800	$ 920,350	$1,017,850	$155,600	$ 706,600	$ 270,350	$ 55,200	$ 213,750
2	1,367,500	236,350	867,000	1,103,400	185,450	661,200	264,100	50,900	205,800
3	1,133,950	127,950	593,450	920,300	99,950	455,250	213,650	28,000	138,200
4	1,305,950	143,850	564,050	1,062,950	111,050	405,050	243,000	32,800	159,000
Total	$5,095,600	$718,950	$2,944,850	$4,104,500	$552,050	$2,228,100	$ 991,100	$ 166,900	$ 716,750
1982-1	$1,154,200	$112,650	$ 506,800	$ 933,050	$ 71,750	$ 384,850	$ 221,150	$ 40,900	$ 121,950
2	1,008,450	96,600	382,650	810,650	75,350	274,750	197,800	21,250	107,900
3	783,400	107,200	279,950	640,450	89,750	183,450	142,950	17,450	96,500
4	658,350	89,600	328,350	510,600	59,300	221,400	147,750	30,300	106,950
Total	$3,604,400	$406,050	$1,497,750	$2,894,750	$296,150	$1,064,450	$ 709,650	$ 109,900	$ 433,300
1983-1	$ 487,450	$ 56,650	$ 314,850	$ 370,600	$ 40,800	$ 224,100	$ 116,850	$ 15,850	$ 90,750
2	469,650	58,300	399,100	357,500	49,300	269,300	112,150	9,000	129,800
3	357,050	42,900	468,150	252,350	32,200	322,200	104,700	10,700	145,950
4	530,900	57,150	514,050	391,050	49,600	336,050	139,850	7,550	178,000
Total	$1,845,050	$215,000	$1,696,150	$1,371,500	$171,900	$1,151,650	$ 473,550	$ 43,100	$ 544,500
1984-1P	$ 449,500	$ 40,550	$ 600,450	$ 298,100	$ 25,100	$ 412,750	$ 151,400	$ 15,450	$ 187,700

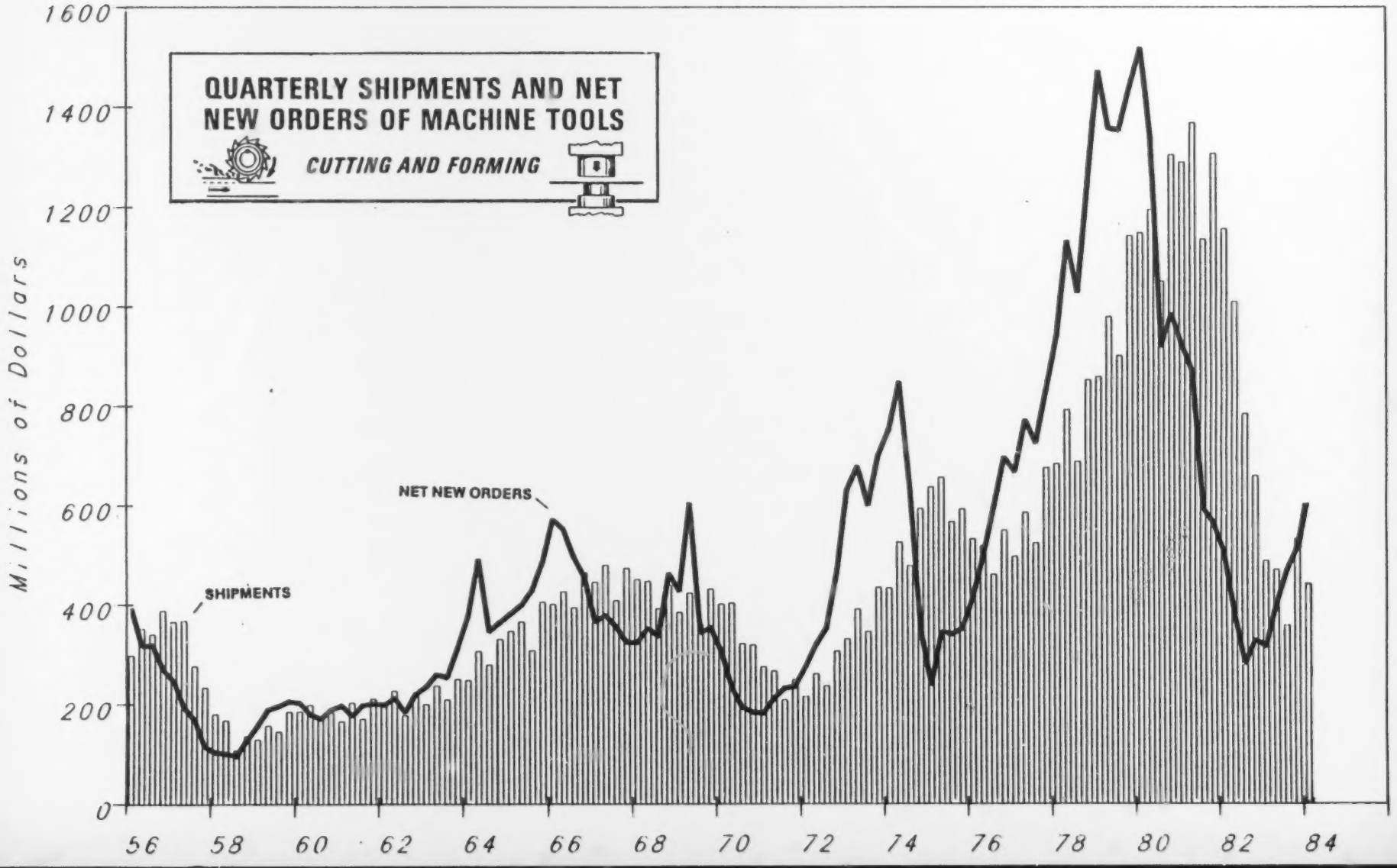
P - Preliminary

NOTE: These data series are available back to 1956. To obtain a copy of the tables for 1956 through 1983, contact:
NMTBA Statistical Department, 7901 Westpark Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102. Phone: 703:893-2900

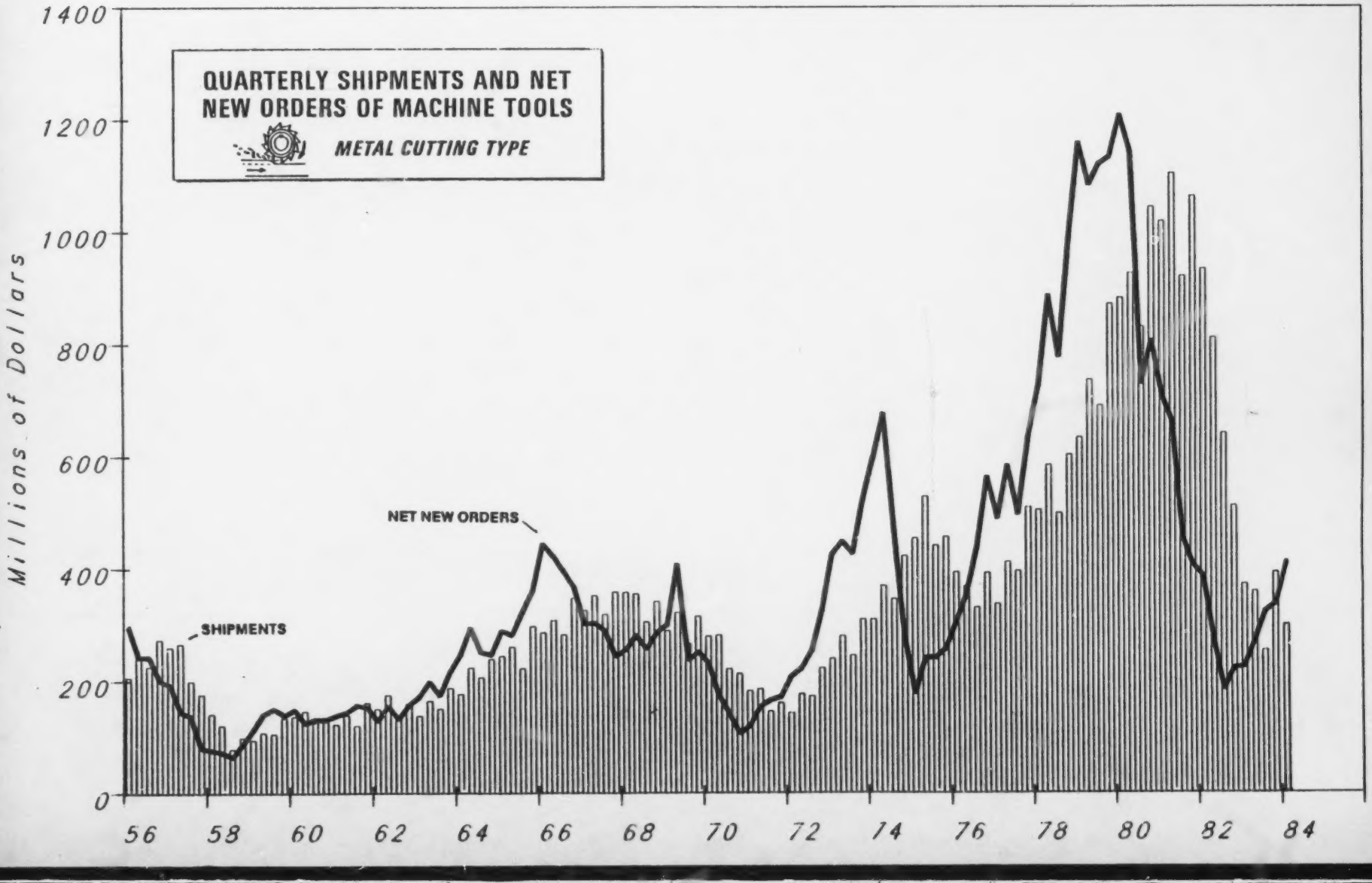
Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association

April 30, 1984

Total Machine Tool
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956:1 to 1984:1



Metal Cutting Machine Tool
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956:1 to 1984:1



Metal Forming Machine Tool
Shipments (Bar) and Net New Orders (Line)
Quarterly, 1956:1 to 1984:1